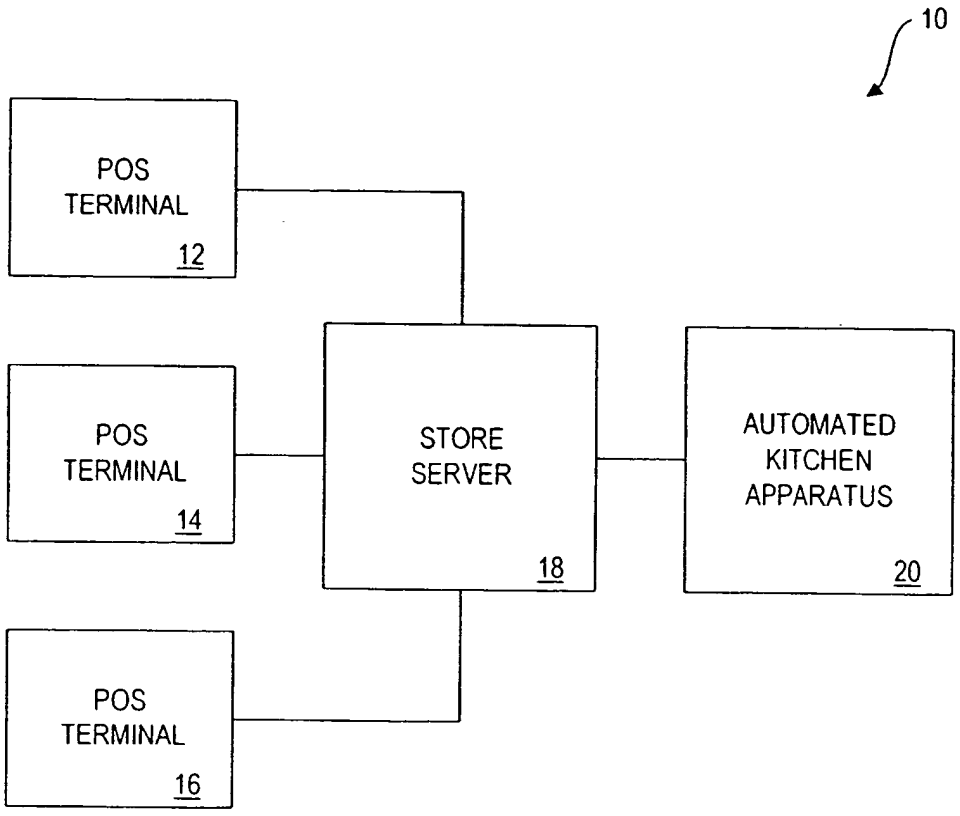
10
POS TERMINAL 12
POS TERMINAL 14
POS TERMINAL 16
STORE SERVER 18
AUTOMATED KITCHEN APPARATUS 20

FIG. 1

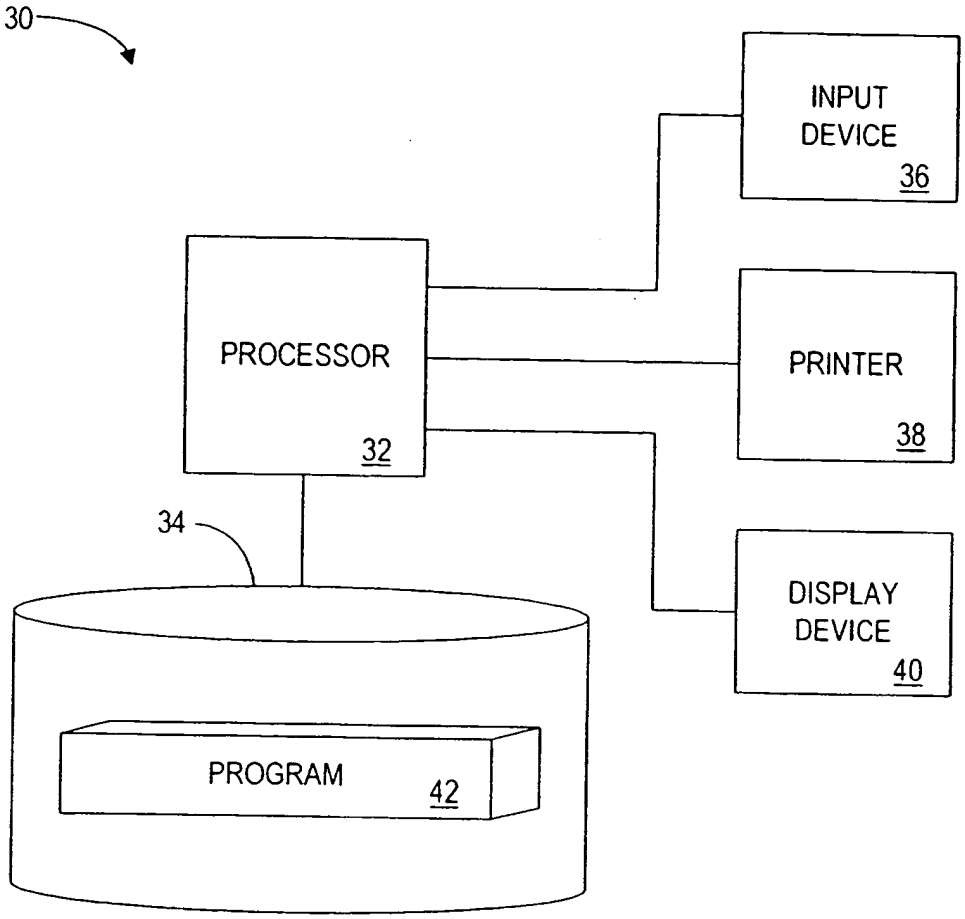
30
INPUT DEVICE 36
PROCESSOR 32
PRINTER 38
34
DISPLAY DEVICE 40
PROGRAM 42

FIG. 2

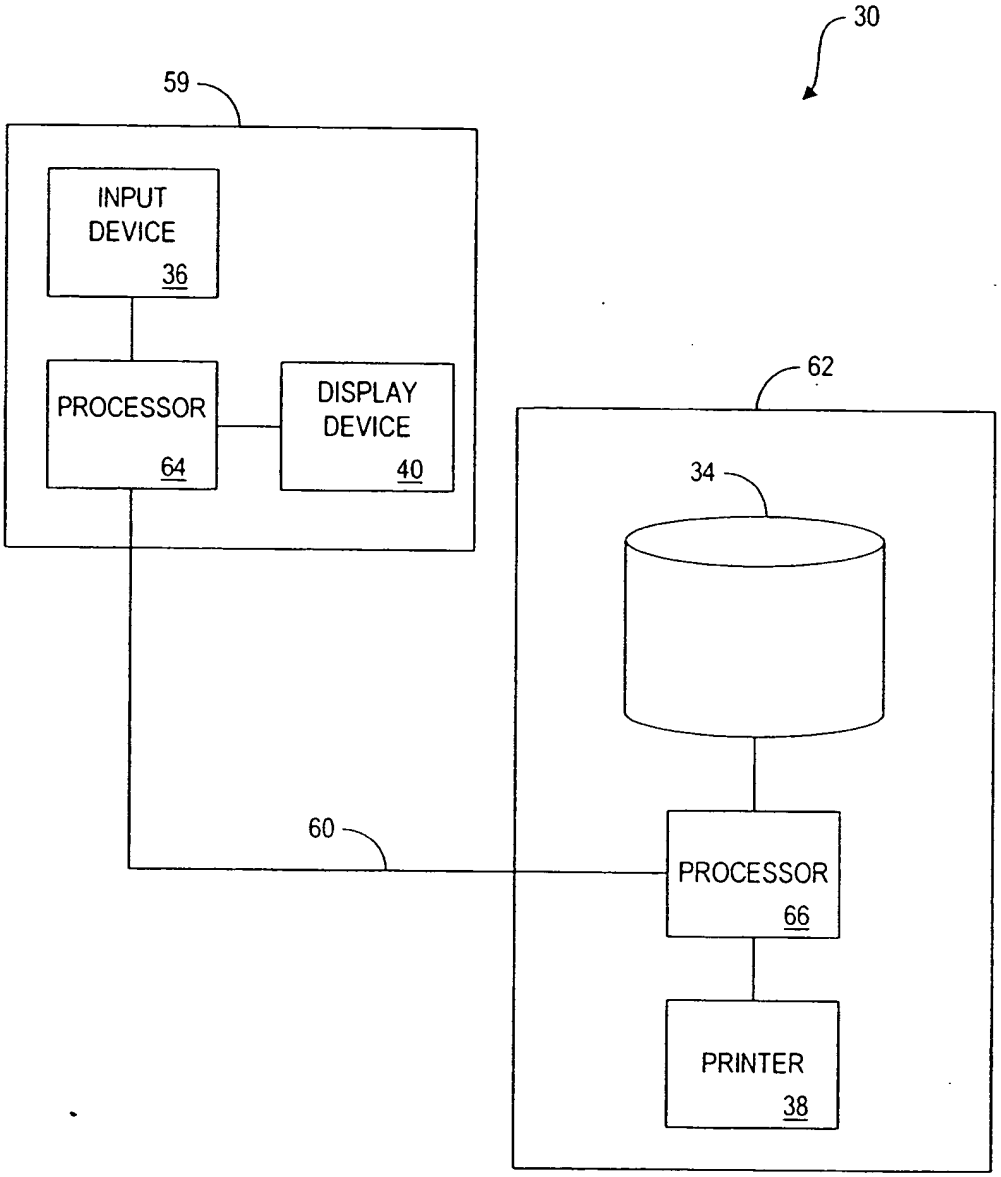
30
59
INPUT DEVICE 36
PROCESSOR 64
DISPLAY DEVICE 40
62
34
60
PROCESSOR 66
PRINTER 38

FIG. 3

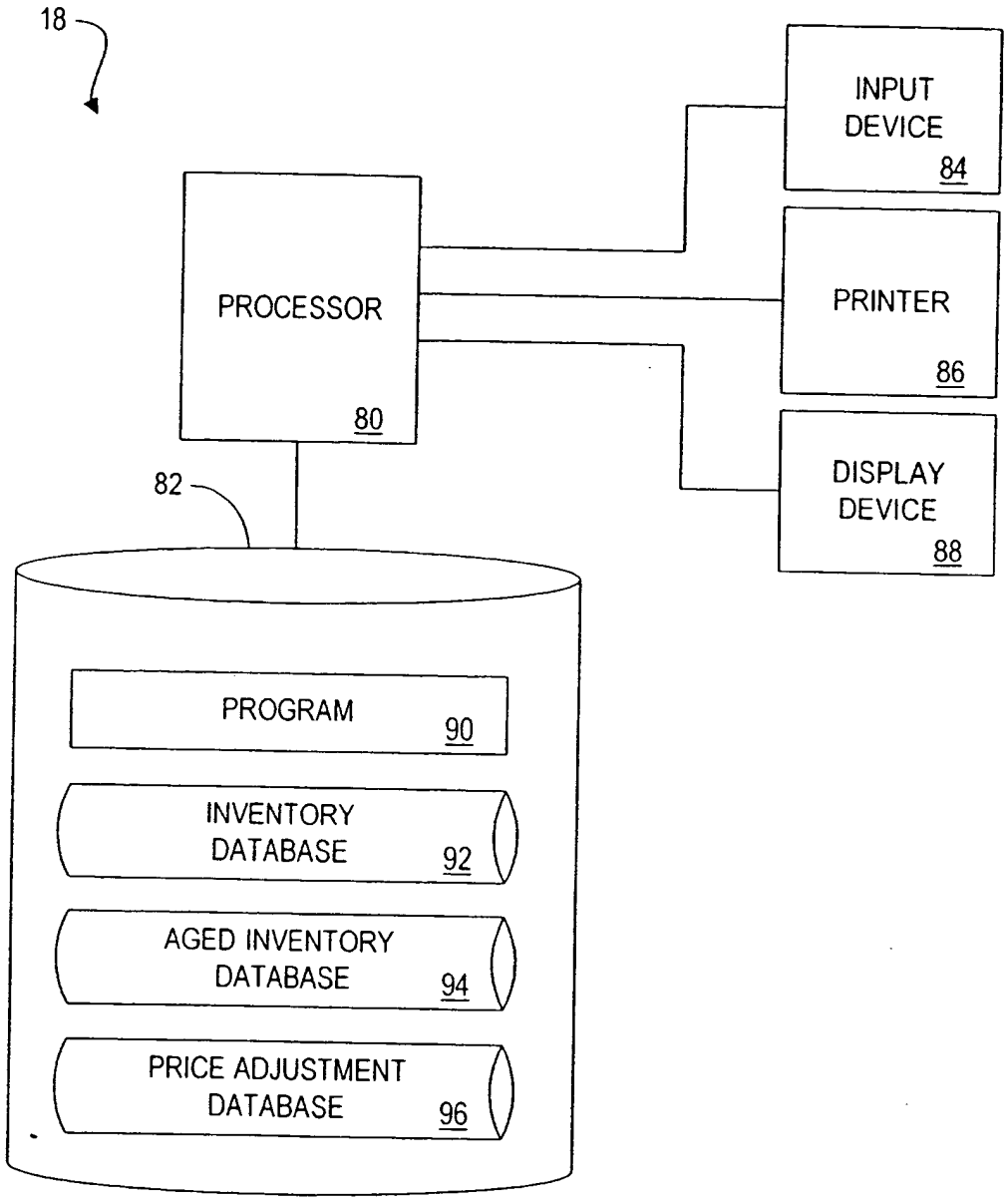
18
INPUT DEVICE 84
PROCESSOR 80
PRINTER 86
DISPLAY DEVICE 88
82
PROGRAM 90
INVENTORY DATABASE 92
AGED INVENTORY DATABASE 94
PRICE ADJUSTMENT DATABASE 96

FIG. 4

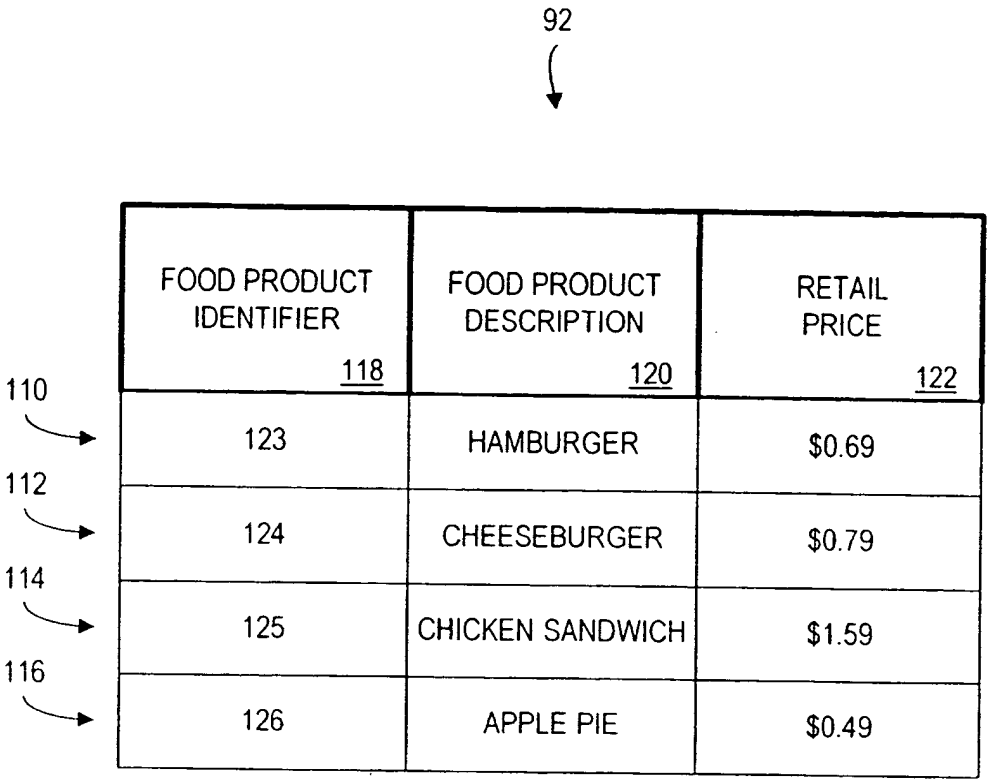
92
110
112
114
116
FOOD PRODUCT IDENTIFIER 118
FOOD PRODUCT DESCRIPTION 120
RETAIL PRICE 122
123
HAMBURGER
$0.69
124
CHEESEBURGER
$0.79
125
CHICKEN SANDWICH
$1.59
126
APPLE PIE
$0.49

FIG. 5

94

	FOOD PRODUCT IDENTIFIER 138	FOOD PRODUCT DESCRIPTION 140	QUANTITY 142	MINIMUM PRICE 144
130	123	HAMBURGER	2	$0.40
132	126	APPLE PIE	1	$0.00
134	125	CHICKEN SANDWICH	1	$0.32
136	124	CHEESEBURGER	1	$0.00

FIG. 6

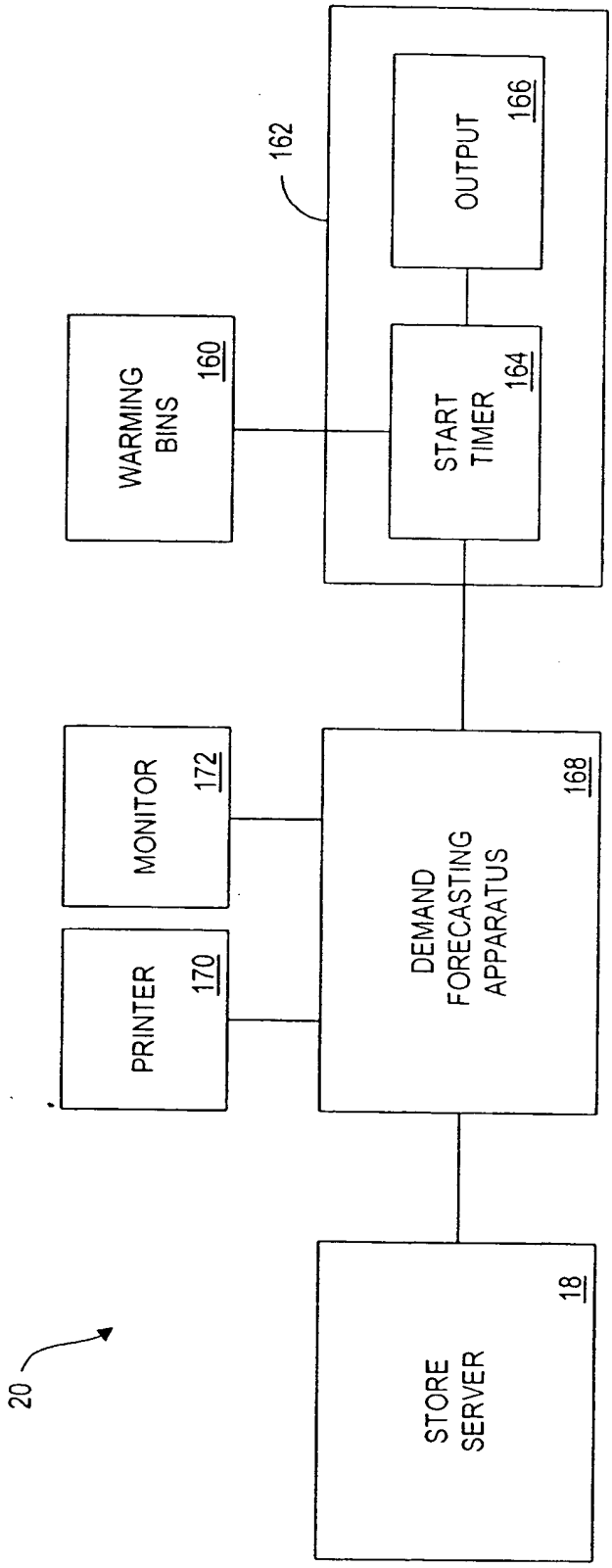
20
STORE SERVER
18
DEMAND FORECASTING APPARATUS
168
PRINTER
170
MONITOR
172
WARMING BINS
160
162
START TIMER
164
OUTPUT
166

FIG. 7

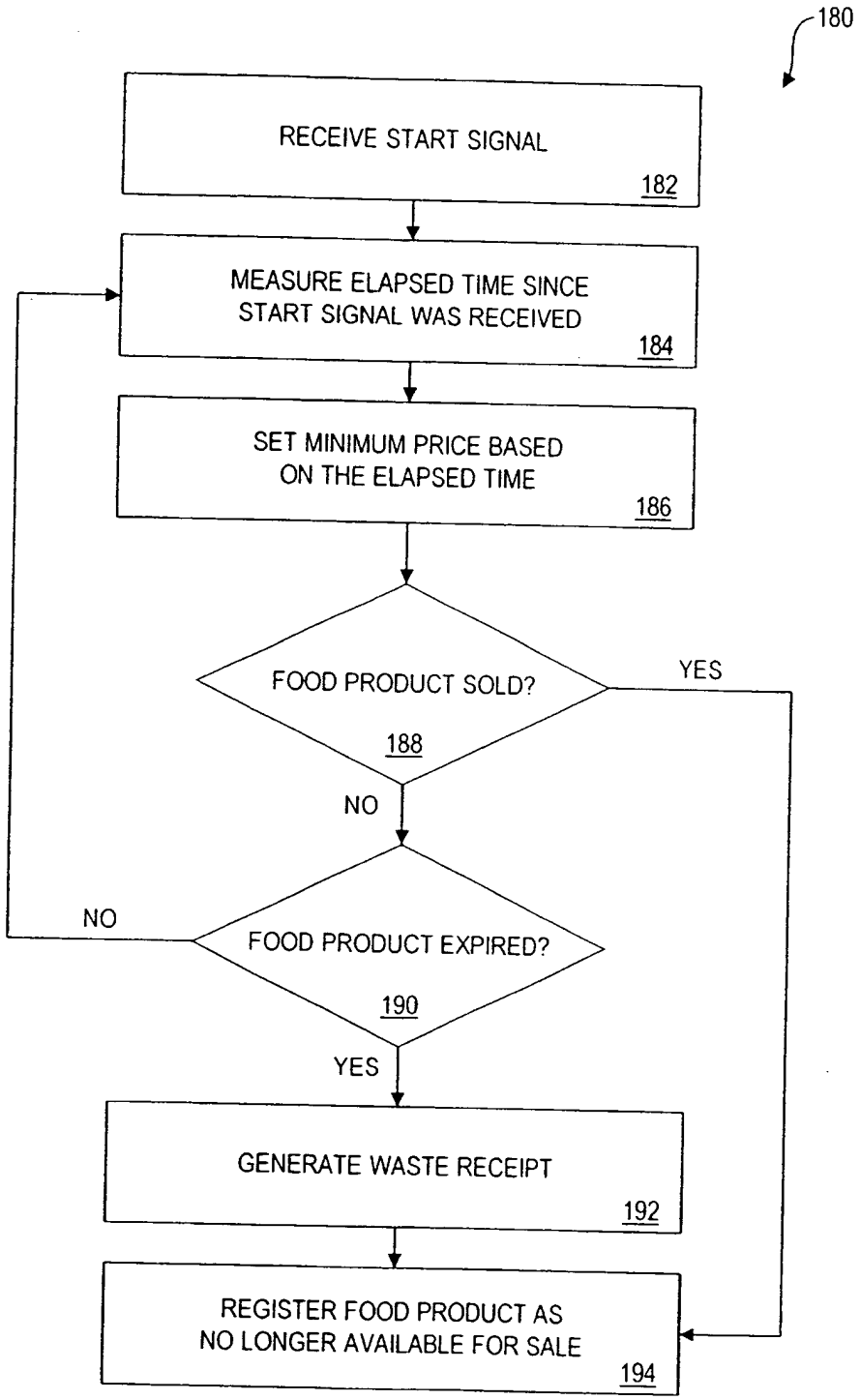
180
RECEIVE START SIGNAL
182
MEASURE ELAPSED TIME SINCE START SIGNAL WAS RECEIVED
184
SET MINIMUM PRICE BASED ON THE ELAPSED TIME
186
FOOD PRODUCT SOLD?
188
YES
NO
FOOD PRODUCT EXPIRED?
190
NO
YES
GENERATE WASTE RECEIPT
192
REGISTER FOOD PRODUCT AS NO LONGER AVAILABLE FOR SALE
194

FIG. 8

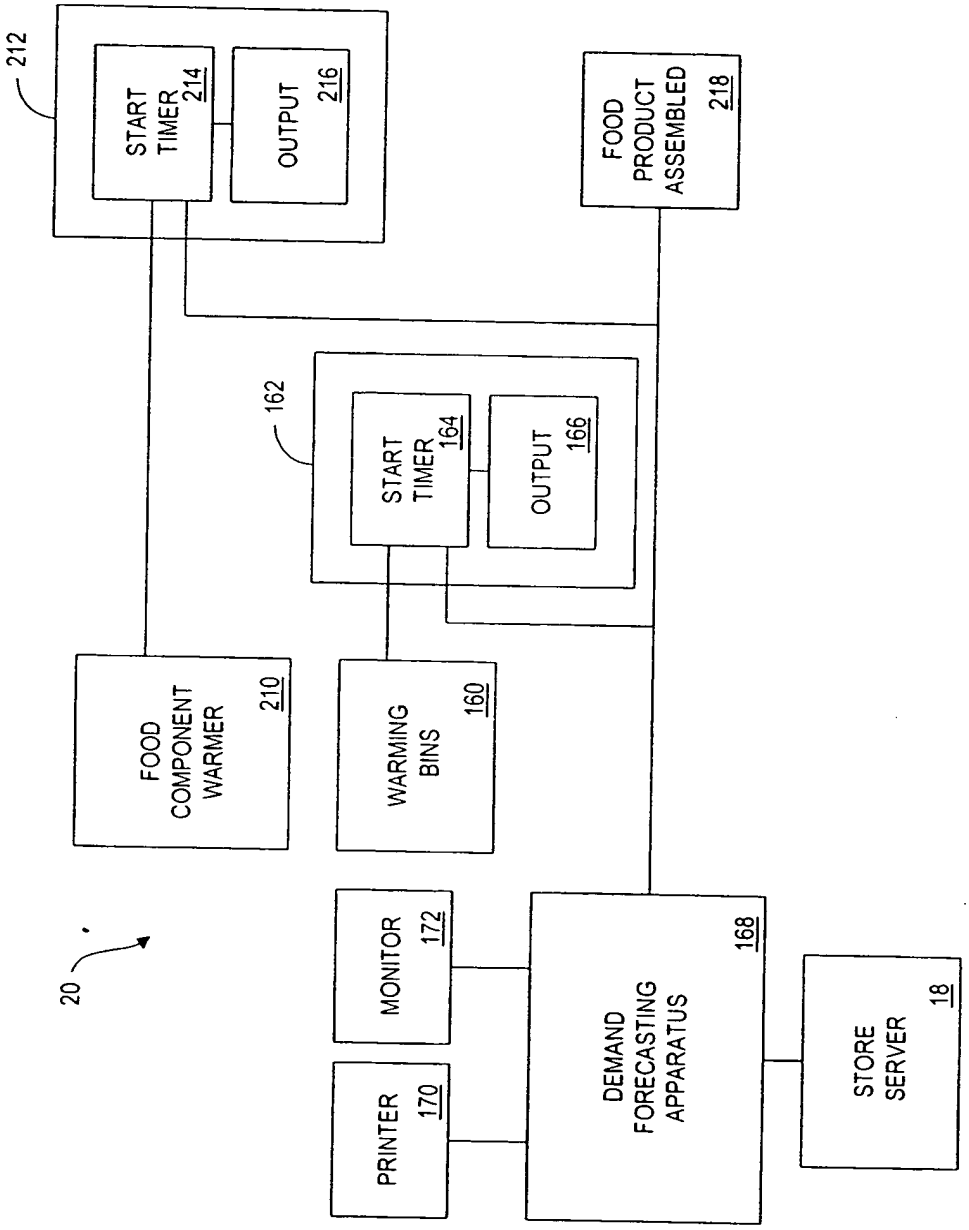
212
START TIMER 214
OUTPUT 216
FOOD PRODUCT ASSEMBLED 218
162
START TIMER 164
OUTPUT 166
FOOD COMPONENT WARMER 210
WARMING BINS 160
20
MONITOR 172
PRINTER 170
DEMAND FORECASTING APPARATUS 168
STORE SERVER 18

FIG. 9

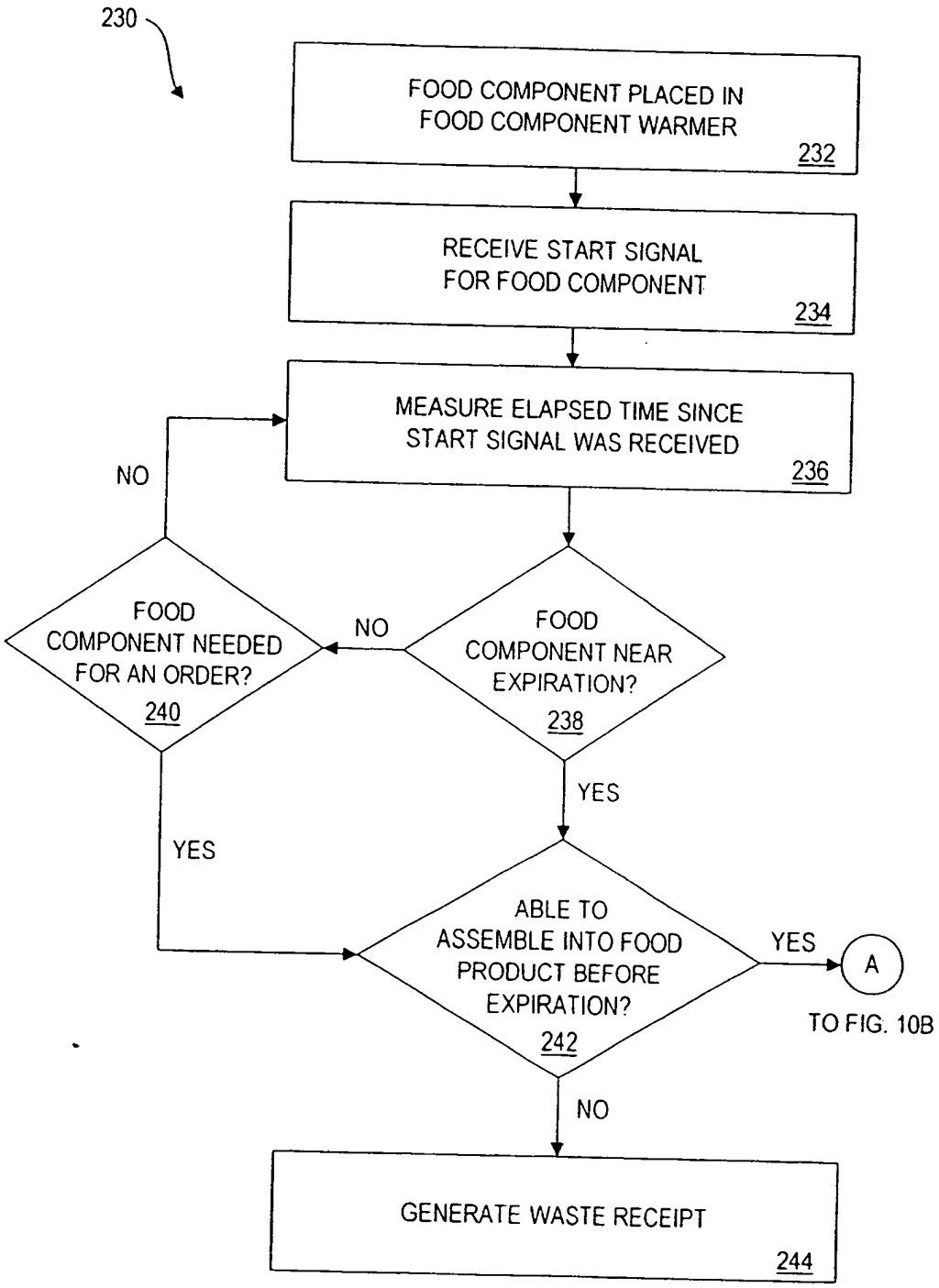
230
FOOD COMPONENT PLACED IN FOOD COMPONENT WARMER
232
RECEIVE START SIGNAL FOR FOOD COMPONENT
234
MEASURE ELAPSED TIME SINCE START SIGNAL WAS RECEIVED
236
NO
FOOD COMPONENT NEEDED FOR AN ORDER?
240
NO
FOOD COMPONENT NEAR EXPIRATION?
238
YES
YES
ABLE TO ASSEMBLE INTO FOOD PRODUCT BEFORE EXPIRATION?
242
YES
A
TO FIG. 10B
NO
GENERATE WASTE RECEIPT
244

FIG. 10A

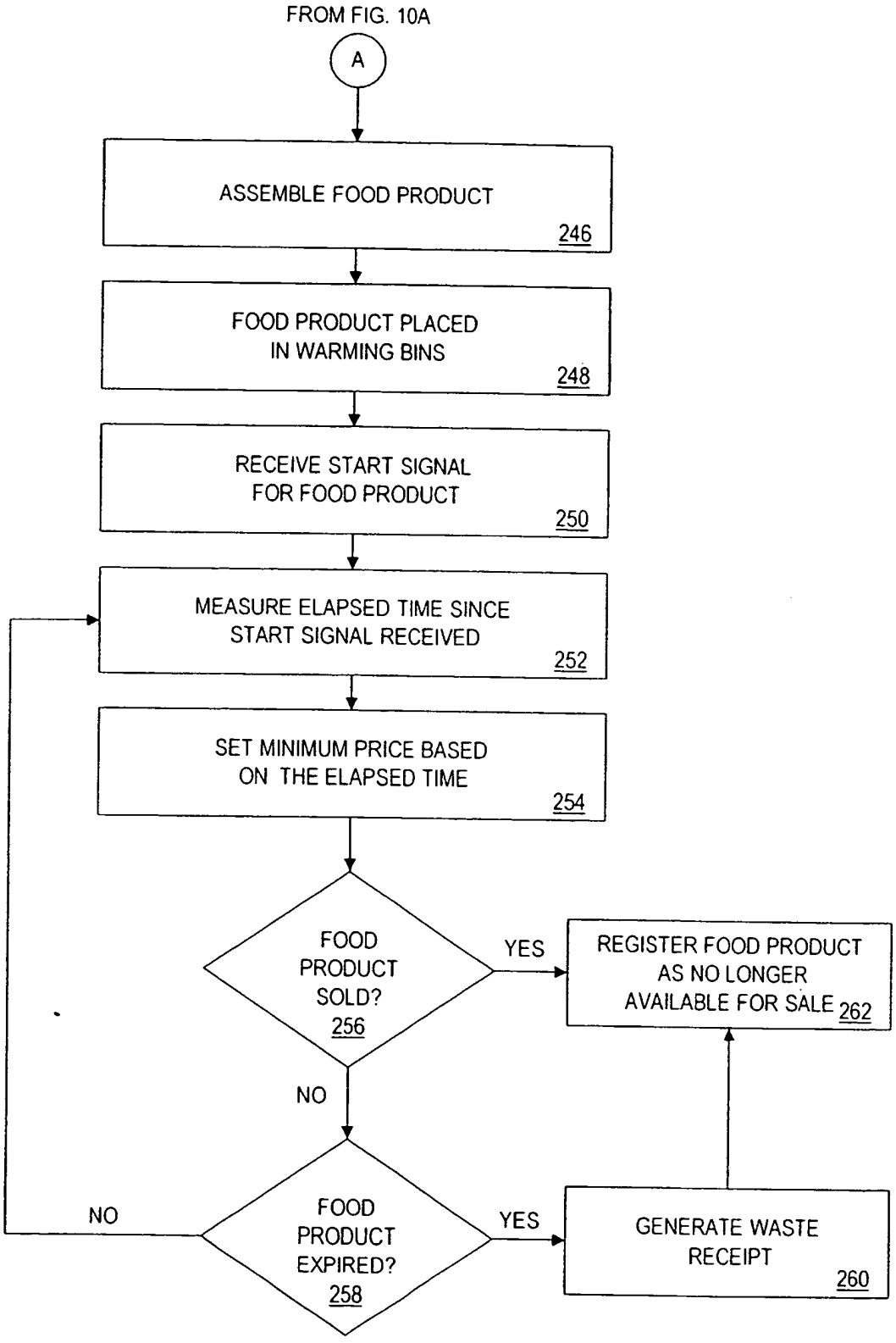
FROM FIG. 10A
A
ASSEMBLE FOOD PRODUCT
246
FOOD PRODUCT PLACED IN WARMING BINS
248
RECEIVE START SIGNAL FOR FOOD PRODUCT
250
MEASURE ELAPSED TIME SINCE START SIGNAL RECEIVED
252
SET MINIMUM PRICE BASED ON THE ELAPSED TIME
254
FOOD PRODUCT SOLD?
256
YES
REGISTER FOOD PRODUCT AS NO LONGER AVAILABLE FOR SALE
262
NO
FOOD PRODUCT EXPIRED?
258
NO
YES
GENERATE WASTE RECEIPT
260

FIG. 10B

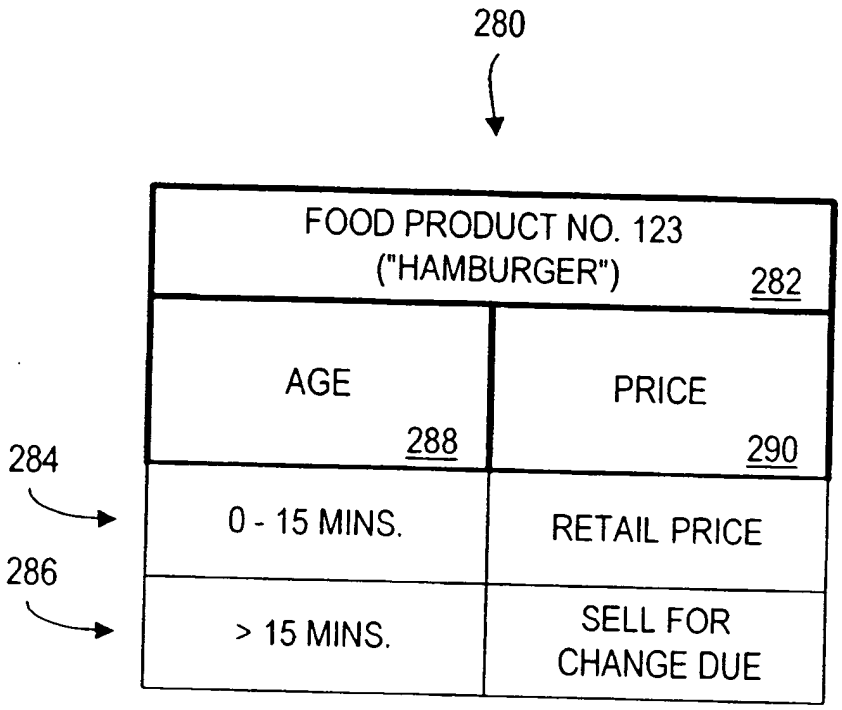
280
FOOD PRODUCT NO. 123
("HAMBURGER")
282
AGE
288
PRICE
290
284
0 - 15 MINS.
RETAIL PRICE
286
> 15 MINS.
SELL FOR
CHANGE DUE

FIG. 11

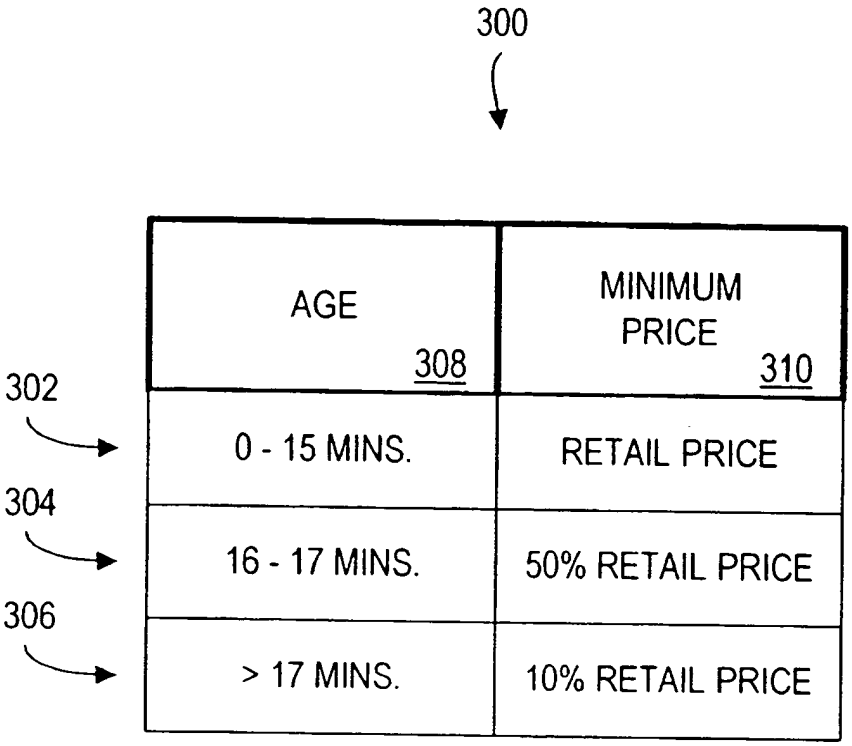
300
AGE
308
MINIMUM PRICE
310
302
0 - 15 MINS.
RETAIL PRICE
304
16 - 17 MINS.
50% RETAIL PRICE
306
> 17 MINS.
10% RETAIL PRICE

FIG. 12

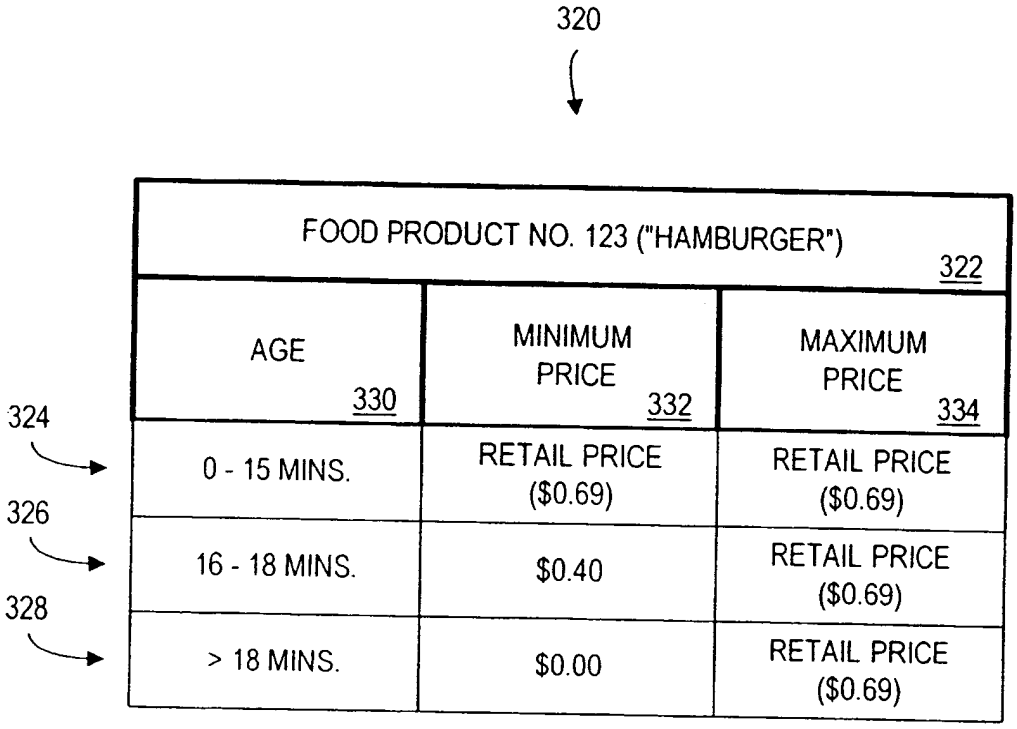
320
FOOD PRODUCT NO. 123 ("HAMBURGER")
322
AGE
330
MINIMUM PRICE
332
MAXIMUM PRICE
334
324
0 - 15 MINS.
RETAIL PRICE ($0.69)
RETAIL PRICE ($0.69)
326
16 - 18 MINS.
$0.40
RETAIL PRICE ($0.69)
328
> 18 MINS.
$0.00
RETAIL PRICE ($0.69)

FIG. 13

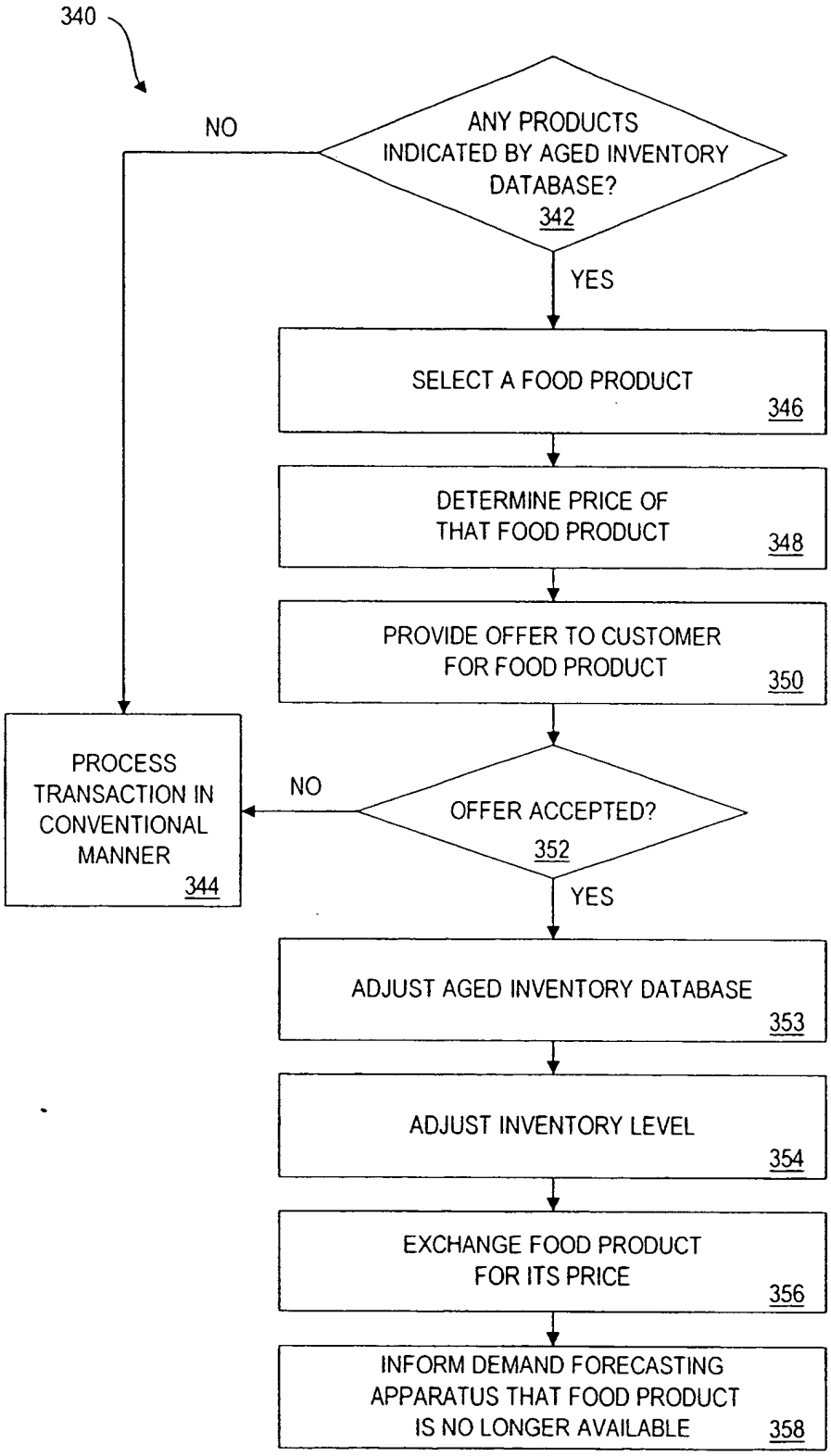
340
ANY PRODUCTS INDICATED BY AGED INVENTORY DATABASE?
342
NO
YES
SELECT A FOOD PRODUCT
346
DETERMINE PRICE OF THAT FOOD PRODUCT
348
PROVIDE OFFER TO CUSTOMER FOR FOOD PRODUCT
350
OFFER ACCEPTED?
352
NO
YES
PROCESS TRANSACTION IN CONVENTIONAL MANNER
344
ADJUST AGED INVENTORY DATABASE
353
ADJUST INVENTORY LEVEL
354
EXCHANGE FOOD PRODUCT FOR ITS PRICE
356
INFORM DEMAND FORECASTING APPARATUS THAT FOOD PRODUCT IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE
358

FIG. 14

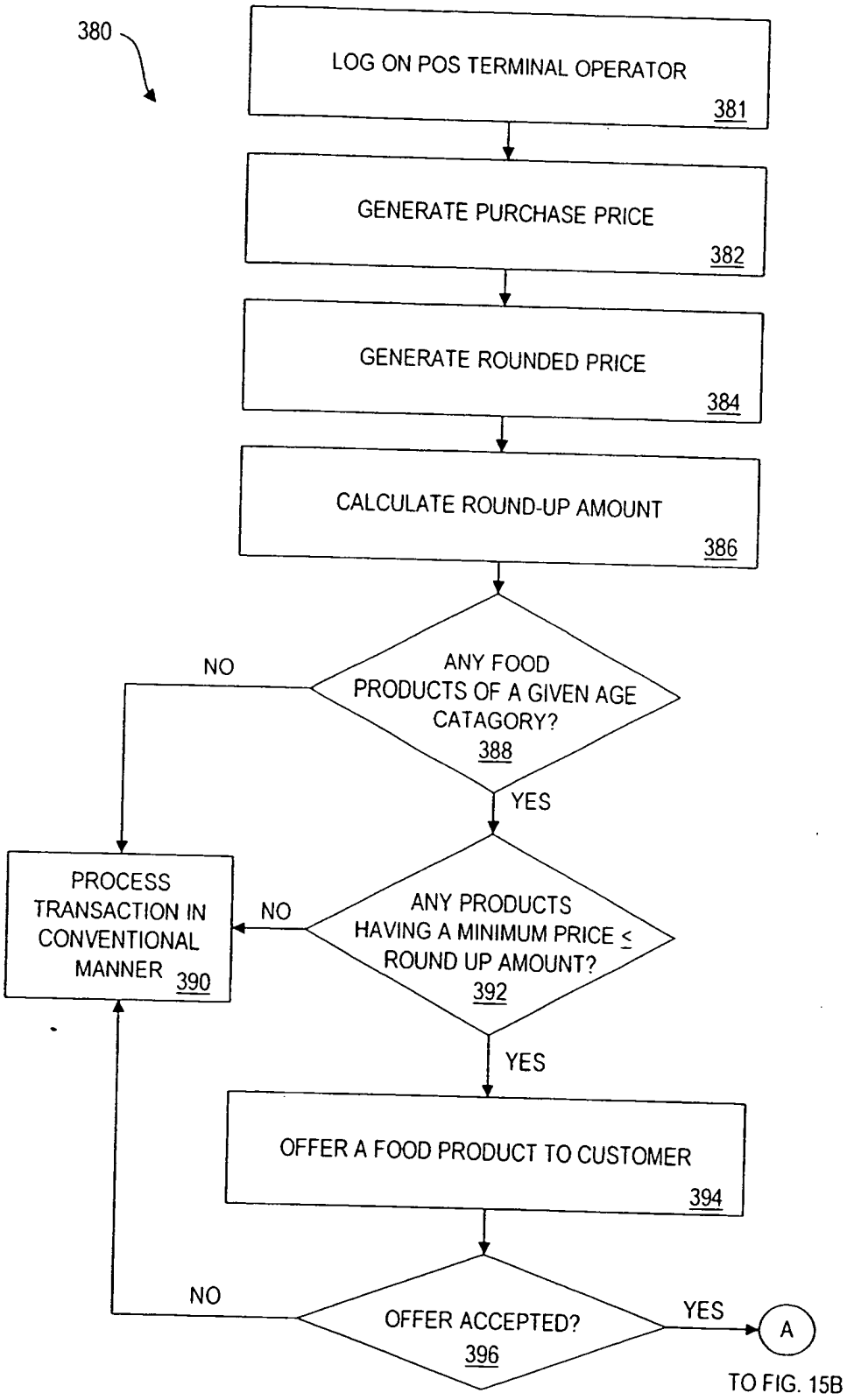
380
LOG ON POS TERMINAL OPERATOR
381
GENERATE PURCHASE PRICE
382
GENERATE ROUNDED PRICE
384
CALCULATE ROUND-UP AMOUNT
386
ANY FOOD PRODUCTS OF A GIVEN AGE CATAGORY?
388
NO
YES
ANY PRODUCTS HAVING A MINIMUM PRICE ≤ ROUND UP AMOUNT?
392
NO
PROCESS TRANSACTION IN CONVENTIONAL MANNER
390
YES
OFFER A FOOD PRODUCT TO CUSTOMER
394
OFFER ACCEPTED?
396
NO
YES
A
TO FIG. 15B

FIG. 15A

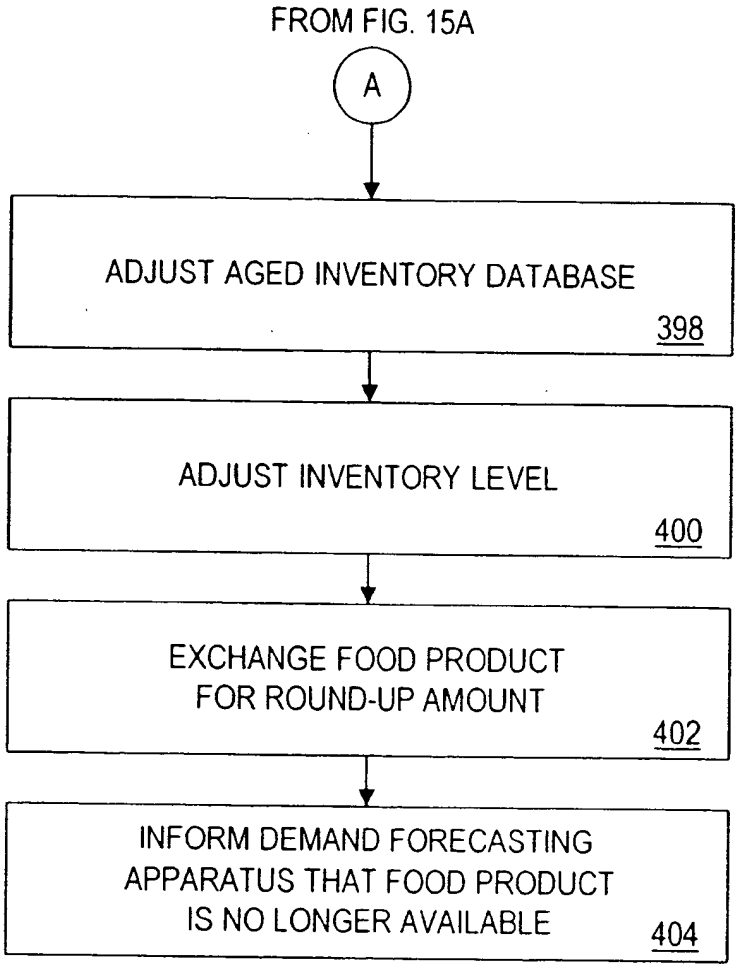
FROM FIG. 15A
A
ADJUST AGED INVENTORY DATABASE
398
ADJUST INVENTORY LEVEL
400
EXCHANGE FOOD PRODUCT FOR ROUND-UP AMOUNT
402
INFORM DEMAND FORECASTING APPARATUS THAT FOOD PRODUCT IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE
404

FIG. 15B